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CONTACT: Nikki Crosslin  
Information Officer  
(615)741-2257 (O)  
(615)292-5030 (H)

## **EASTMAN CHEMICAL COMPANY RECEIVES RECERTIFICATION OF STAR AWARD**

KINGSPORT- Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Michael E. Magill, on behalf of Gov. Don Sundquist, today re-certified the STAR Award for the Eastman Chemical Company of Kingsport. The **VOLUNTEER Safety Through Accountability and Recognition** (STAR) Award is the state's highest honor for workplace safety and health and a nationally recognized program.

Commissioner Magill congratulated Eastman's 7,353 employees during the ceremony held at the Kingsport company. "Tennessee's VOLUNTEER STAR program participants are a select group of employers who have designed and implemented outstanding health and safety programs. We are excited Eastman is continuing their commitment to safety."

Jerry Repass, Vice President and General Manager, said, "Achieving STAR status could not have been attained without the efforts of our entire group. One of Eastman's greatest advantages has been an environment where all team members are proactive and have accepted the responsibility for a safe and healthy workplace."

The main objective for participation in the STAR program is the improvement of the company's safety and health program, which helps reduce accidents and injuries. The program also allows employers to be removed from programmed compliance inspection lists for a period of three years. TOSHA consultants work with companies through the internal and external review that is part of the application process.

Tennessee Eastman originally received STAR certification in March, 1998.

For more information on the VOLUNTEER STAR Award program, contact TOSHA's Consultative Services office at 1-800-325-9901.

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